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April 29, 2003

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GROUP 1700

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Art Unit 1756

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Appl. No. 09/981,992; Filed: October 19, 2001
For: **Wafer Handling System and Method for Use in Lithography Patterning**
Inventor(s): Del Puerto et al.
Our Ref: 1857.0290000

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Reply to Restriction Requirement; and
2. One (1) return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Jason D. Eisenberg
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 43,447

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

5103
#3 Election

In re application of:
Del Puerto et al.
Appl. No. 09/981,992
Filed: October 19, 2001
For: **Wafer Handling System and Method for Use in Lithography Patterning**

Confirmation No. 7081
Art Unit: 1756
Examiner: C. Young
Atty. Docket: 1857.0290000

Reply To Restriction Requirement

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action dated **April 1, 2003**, requesting an election of one invention to prosecute in the above-referenced patent application, Applicant hereby provisionally elects to prosecute the invention of Group I , represented by claims 1-27 and 37. This election is made without prejudice to or disclaimer of the other claims or inventions disclosed. This election is made **without** traverse. It is not believed that extensions of time are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in accompanying documents. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,
STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

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Date: 4/29/03

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